For answer vide Col 38 infra.]

*169. [*The questioner (Shri Kailash Narayan Sarng) was absent. For answer vide Col 38 infra.*]

Functioning of Doordarshan without Regular Director General

*170. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA†.
DR. BAPU KALDATE :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan is presently headless and is functioning with a part-time Director General at a time when competition from statellite channels is increasing;

(b) whether a number of cases of corruption and scandals in selecting and screening of serials have been detected by the Central Bureau of Investigation;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not appointing a regular Director General of Doordarshan and to what extent the existing arrangement has hampered the functioning of Doordarshan; and

(d) what action has been taken by Government in regard thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) : (a) No, Sir. An Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is holding the current charge of the post of Director General, Doordarshan in addition to his own duties.

(b) There are two cases of alleged corruption which have since been investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation against officials involved in the selecting and screening of serials. One is pending trial before Special Judge, Bongalore; and in the second where the CBI has completed investigation, all Doordarshan officials have been exonerated.

(c) and (d) Efforts were made by the Government to fill up the post of Director General, Doordarshan as per the Recruitment Rules and it was found that no person belonging to the Indian Broadcasting (Programme) Service/erstwhile Programme Cadre was eligible for being promoted. Other modes of filling up of the post, such as transfer on deputation and direct recruitment are being considered by the Government. However, the present arrangement made by the Government is working satisfactorily :

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Madam, the Government doesn't reply to my questions properly. (*Interruptions*) ... There are criminal cases. (*Interruptions*) ... There are criminal cases. (Interruptions) ... I would like to know what action the Government is taking to appoint a permanent Director General for Doordarshan. (*Interruptions*) ...

What is the Government doing about the crimal cases ? (*Interruptions*) ... What are you going to do about them ? (*Interuptions*) ...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : I am not going to accept this Question Hour. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Madam Deputy Chairperson, in spite of hearing this entire warm answer if the hon. Member was not ... (Interruptions) ... I will have no answer to that. (*Interruptions*) ... As I have already mentioned, the Additional Secretary ... (*Interruptions*) .... is holing ... (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : Please allow me to speak. (*Interruptions*) I cannot hear the question. (*Interruptions*) ... I am suffering in the middle of this. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : ... in following the composite ... (*Interruptions*) ...

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Kamla Sinha.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: You suspend this. I don't want the Question Hiour under duress. (*Interruptions*) ... I have got accountability to the public. (*Interruptions*) ... This Question Hour costs one lakh rupees ... (*Interruptions*) ...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : If you want, you can move a resolution to suspend the Question Hour. (*Interruptions*) ... I will put to vote. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY : What is preventing the ruling party from bringing that ? (*Interruptions*) ... I am not going to be a silent partner today. (*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : If any instance is given, we will inquire into it. (*Interuptions*) ...

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० अबरारअहमद) ट्रेजरी बेंचेज की तरफ से तो पहले ही कहा गया है कि अगर क्वेश्चन आवर सस्पेंड करना चाहते हैं तो मोशन मूव किया जा सकता है। **(व्यवधान)**

SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Madam, I am not satisfied with the answer. (*Interruptions*) ... There should be a half-an-hour discussion on this. (*Interuptions*) ... Madam I am not satisfied with this. (*Interruptions*) ... There should be a half-an-hour discussion on this. (*Interruptions*) ...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : All right. (*Interruptions*) ...

Shri Bapu Kaldate. (*Interuptions*) ...

Lay-off in Azam Jahi Mills Run by NTC

*171. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD : Will the Minister of TEXTILIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of Azam Jahi Mills, Warangal, a unit of National Textile Corporation has resorted to illegal lay-off of its staff and the staff are not being paid salaries regularly;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that a number of employees have left under Voluntary Retirement Scheme and some of the Officers and technical staff are provided alternative jobs by transferring them to the Head Office and other Sister Units; if so, the details thereof

(d) whether it is also a fact that the office staff who have been laid off illegally have requested for their transfer to other sister units but not agreed to by he management; and

(e) if so the details therof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY : (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The matter pertaining to the lay-off of the surplus mill staff of Azam Jahi Mills, Warangal, a unit under NTC (A KK&M) Ltd. is subjudice in the High Court at Hyderabad. The salaries/wages of the officers, staff and workers of this mill could not be paid on time due to financial constraints. The requirement of funds of the units of NTC is met by, inter-alia, generation of cash resorces by production, bank finance and bugetary support made available by Government to NTC towards the reimbursement of its cash losses. Government have approved a Turn Around Strategy for NTC involving, inter-alia, seletive modernisation, financial and mangerial restructuring and the raitonalisation of suplus workforce under the Voluntary Retirement Scheme. NTC is expected to attain profitabity after the successful implementation of this Turn Around Strategy.

(c) 16 managerial/supervisory staff, 86 mill staff and 989 workers of Azam Jahi Mills had availed of Voluntary Retirement upto 8-12-93. Officers/managerial/supervisory staff of this mill have been